



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

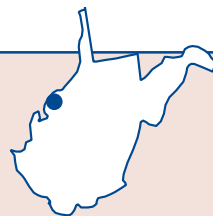
Parkersburg, WV

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Parkersburg was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Sixteen percent of Parkersburg's 33,099 residents live in poverty. Located at the confluence of the Ohio and Little Kanawha Rivers, Parkersburg was economically dependent upon the oil and gas booms of the late Nineteenth Century, and much of its downtown was dominated by oil storage and refining operations. Many of these industries closed, as did subsequent chemical, textiles, and glass manufacturers, leaving contaminated industrial buildings. Many of these contaminated properties are adjacent to low-income residential communities. Parkersburg is a federal Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC). Assessment and cleanup of



Assessment Grant

New
2004

\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Parkersburg for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments of up to eight former service stations contaminated by underground storage tanks. Each of these large properties, which range in size from one to five acres, requires an assessment sufficient to meet state voluntary remediation plan requirements for leaking underground storage tanks.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 3 Brownfields Team
215-814-3129
<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bfs/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: Parkersburg, WV
304-424-8415

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

the brownfields properties is expected to help the town retain jobs critical to its economy and stimulate recovery through the creation of new jobs generated by business expansion and relocation.